

## **Lead Scientist's Report**

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**Summary:** This report provides an update on the Delta Science Program's process for developing research grant funding recommendations to the Council for the 2010 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). The Lead Scientist's recommendations for funding will be brought to the Council for approval at its March 24-25, 2011 meeting.

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### **Background**

In April 2010 the Council approved release of the Delta Science Program's 2010 Focused Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). The goal of the PSP is to invest in new scientific knowledge that will fundamentally advance the understanding of the complex environments/systems within the Council's jurisdiction to aid policy-makers and managers. About \$8 million from Prop 84 will be used to fund research in four focused topic areas: Native Fish Biology and Ecology; Food Webs of Key Delta Species and their Relationship to Water Quality and Other Drivers; Coupled Hydrologic and Ecosystem Models; and Water and Ecosystem Management Decision Support System Development.

A total of 49 proposals requesting \$30,843,088 in funding were received by the June 30, 2010 deadline. Each of these proposals has undergone several levels of review, an administrative review, a minimum of two independent external scientific reviews, and multiple reviews by the Final Review Panel (FRP). The FRP consisted of 13 independent scientific experts from across the country.

### **PSP Funding Recommendations Process**

On January 19-20, 2011 the FRP met and generated their summary ratings and comments on the proposals. Lead Scientist Cliff Dahm reviewed the panel's recommendations and developed his initial funding recommendations based on the FRP summary results, the proposals, and the external and individual panelist reviews. The initial recommendation is for funding 13 proposals that span all four of the focused topic areas for a total of \$7,095,185 (See Attachment 1).

Dr. Dahm's funding recommendations were made available for public comment between February 14 -25, 2011. Public comment received in this time period will be considered and Dr. Dahm's final funding recommendations will be brought to the Council for approval at its March 24-25, 2011 meeting.

For more detailed information on the 2010 PSP and its process please visit:  
[http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta\\_science\\_program/research/psp\\_2010.html](http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta_science_program/research/psp_2010.html)

### **Attachment**

Attachment 1: Lead Scientist's Initial Funding Recommendations for the 2010 PSP

### **Contact**

Dr. Cliff Dahm  
Lead Scientist

Phone: (916) 445-0463